



## COURSE PROSPECTUS: OTS0510

PROFESSOR: Allan Moseley

### OVERVIEW

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This course will offer an overview of Old Testament history, an introduction to background issues, and a summary of principles of interpretation for the major Old Testament genres in order to equip students to grow in Christian faith and to respond to contemporary challenges to the Old Testament.

### OBJECTIVES

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- As a result of this class, students will be able to discuss the significance of the Old Testament in relation to redemptive history, which culminated in Jesus Christ.
- As a result of this class, students will be able to recite the major events in the history of Israel as recorded in the Old Testament.
- As a result of this class, students will be able to recall the contents of the books of the Old Testament and cite the major critical issues related to each book.
- As a result of this class, students will be able to classify the major literary genres in the Old Testament, and to apply knowledge of those genres to the tasks of interpretation and application.
- As a result of this class, students will be able to evaluate contemporary ideas and behaviors in light of ideas encountered in the Old Testament.

### CORE COMPETENCIES

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**Spiritual Formation:** Demonstrate the knowledge and skills necessary to pursue an authentically Christian way of life, manifested by trust in God, obedience to Christ's commands, and love of God and neighbor.

**Biblical Exposition:** Demonstrate the ability to properly and effectively interpret, apply, and communicate the Scriptures.

**Theological Integration:** Demonstrate the ability to understand and apply the doctrines of Christianity to life and ministry.

**Ministry Preparation:** Demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and Christian disposition necessary for ministry and leadership in the church and the world.

**Critical Thinking and Communication:** Demonstrate the ability to think critically, argue persuasively, and communicate clearly.

## REQUIREMENTS

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### Weekly Meetings

Participants will meet with the professor from 5:45-7:00 pm on the following dates:

|           |              |              |
|-----------|--------------|--------------|
| August 20 | September 10 | September 24 |
| August 27 | September 17 | October 1    |

Meeting Location:

Crenshaw Consulting Engineering  
3516 Bush Street  
Raleigh, NC 27609

### Online Lectures

Participants will watch three 20-minute online lectures per week. All lectures must be viewed in their entirety.

Week 1: Why study the Old Testament?  
Week 2: The reliability of the Old Testament – History and Text  
Week 3: Interpreting Old Testament law as Christian Scripture  
Week 4: Interpreting Old Testament poetry  
Week 5: Interpreting Old Testament proverbs  
Week 6: Interpreting Old Testament prophetic texts

### Class Lectures

Week 1: How the Old Testament came together  
Week 2: An overview of Old Testament history and interpreting Old Testament narrative  
Week 3: Interpreting the conquest narrative and slavery passages  
Week 4: Interpreting the first two chapters of Genesis  
Week 5: A consideration of some messianic prophecies  
Week 6: Putting it all together: relating the Old Testament to the New Testament

## Reading Assignments

The required textbook is:

Arnold, Bill T., and Bryan E. Beyer. *Encountering the Old Testament: A Christian Survey*. Second edition. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2008.

Since the 12-hour format of this class does not allow time for a review of the contents of the 39 books of the Old Testament, careful reading of the text is essential. The second objective of the course will be fulfilled almost entirely through the assigned reading.

Week 1: pages 1-44, 77-101

Week 2: pages 103-154, 167-179

Week 3: pages 181-261

Week 4: pages 263-277, 289-335

Week 5: pages 353-425

Week 6: pages 427-473

## Writing Assignment

At the conclusion of each chapter in the textbook, "Study Questions" are listed. Each week students will read several chapters, so they will encounter as many as 30-40 study questions in some reading assignments. Students will select any 4 study questions they wish and write thoughtful, accurate answers to the selected questions. Students will write all answers in a single Word document, and they will submit that document to the professor via email attachment. The document will be 4-6 pages in length, 12 point, Times New Roman, single spaced. The deadline for the writing assignment is October 8.

## Course Grading

The grade for the students' answers to the study questions from *Encountering the Old Testament* will constitute 75% of the grade, and class participation (including attendance) will constitute 25% of the grade. The professor's grading scale is as follows:

A – 95-100

B – 87-94

C – 77-86

D – 70-76

F – 0-69

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## Contact Information:

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